



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q63526

Ryoichi NEMORI et al.

Appln. No.: 09/786,883

FILED

Group Art Unit: 1623

Confirmation No.: 6523

MAY 13 2003

Examiner: Ralph J. Gitomer

Filed: March 9, 2001

For: METHOD OF DETECTING THIOL-CONTAINING COMPOUND

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 8, 2003, Applicants elect **Group II (claims 9-12)** with traverse for further prosecution on the merits.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement for the reason that the Examiner has already been examining the claims, which were originally presented. Since the Examiner has been examining all of the claims (product claims and process claims together), it appears that it would not be seriously burdensome for the Examiner to continue to do so. See MPEP §803. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn.

In addition, in the event that the Restriction Requirement is not withdrawn, Applicants respectfully request that the non-elected claims be rejoined with the elected claims if the elected claims are found allowable.

Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to discuss this application, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone

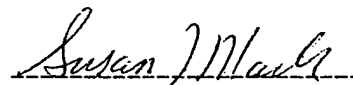
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/786,883

Attorney Docket Q63526

number listed below.

Please charge any fees necessary to maintain the pendency of this application,
except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No.: 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,


Susan J. Mack
Registration No. 30,951

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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